

CITRULLUS VULGARIS. 25867. From Merw, Russian Turkestan. Presented by Capt. M. L. Cummins. Received August 13. "The melon is orange colored and not reddish inside and in my opinion was the best I have ever eaten. The seeds came from a melon I had in Merw in the south central part of Turkestan. (Cummins.)

CITRUS SP. 25862. Seeds from Saigon, Cochinchina. Presented by Mr. Jacob E. Conner, American Consul. Received August 14. "A little fine, flat, green-skinned mandarin orange, a little larger than the ordinary ones of this type. The flesh is quite reddish in color and the flavor is a combination of that of the ordinary flat and the round, loose-skinned oranges". (Conner.)

GLADIOLUS. 25869. Corms and seed from Nhamacurra, Quelimane, Portuguese East Africa. Presented by Mr. O. W. Barrett. Received August 14. "A plant of the low, moist lands of the Zambesi Valley. Flowers pale yellow, medium size, opening nearly downwards. Bulb, pale brown coat, yellow inside. Height 2 to 3 feet. (Barrett.)

GOURDS. 25822-831. Seeds of ten kinds of gourds from Nice, France, presented by Hon. Dulany Hunter, Consul-General. Received August 3. "The 'Festival des Gougourdots' is held here in the spring and though I have never been able to get to it I understand that it is very interesting. I am sending you under separate cover a few packages of the gourds which are exhibited there. The nurseryman states that the seeds should be planted in a flower pot and not transferred until the plant is about to throw out a few leaves; that the soil should be well manured but not too abundantly as in that case the gourd does not become sufficiently dry to be used for holding liquids. When the plants are large enough they are tied to lattice work so they can be exposed to the sun. They need comparatively little water and the fruit should be protected from heavy dews by being kept covered at night. The seeds are planted in the spring and the fruit which dries on the plants is ready to be gathered by the end of September or early in October. The peasants at Cimiez make pipes and other articles of odd shapes by wrapping parts of the gourd before it has ripened with soft pieces of cloth and are thus enabled to bend them into the form they wish to produce. The covered parts do not develop freely and, remaining soft, can be bent into the desired shape". (Hunter.)